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EXTRACT AND CROSS REFERENCE

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Mounted to Head Interpol  
 WASHINGTON - William L. Higgin, Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, was elected president of Interpol Tuesday at the international police organization's 41st annual congress here.  
 NYT 1972

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26 Sep 72

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AMS 71

INTERPOL:

FRANKFURT, WEST GERMANY, SEPT. 26, REUTER -- CANADIAN WILLIAM HIGGITT WAS APPOINTED TODAY AS NEW PRESIDENT OF INTERPOL, THE INTERNATIONAL POLICE ORGANIZATION.

HIGGITT PLEDGED THAT HIS TOP PRIORITIES WOULD BE AN ALL-OUT FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS AND CRIME.

HE SUCCEEDS PAUL DICKOPF OF WEST GERMANY FOR A FOUR YEAR TERM.

THE ELECTION OF HIGGITT CAME AT THE END OF THE 41ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF INTERPOL, ATTENDED BY 270 DELEGATES REPRESENTING AROUND 90 OF THE ORGANIZATION'S 114 MEMBERS. IN THEIR WEEK OF TALKS, THEY ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS ON TOPICS RANGING FROM MARIJUANA-GROWING TO SLAVERY.

BUT THE DELEGATES FACED A DILEMMA ON RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING HIJACKING AND EXTORTION. BOTH ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY POLITICALLY MOTIVATED -- AND UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF INTERPOL'S CONSTITUTION THE ORGANIZATION MAY NOT BE USED TO FIGHT CRIMES OF A POLITICAL NATURE.

SERGE LANGLAIS, CHIEF PRESS SPOKESMAN OF THE PARIS-BASED BODY, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT IN THE EVENT OF A POLITICAL HIJACKING POLICE WOULD HAVE TO USE OTHER LINES OF COMMUNICATION.

INTERPOL SOURCES SAID THAT IN FACT THIS PROBLEM WAS USUALLY OVERCOME BY USING A PARALLEL NETWORK OF THE SAME POLICE OFFICERS AS ARE INVOLVED IN INTERPOL BUT WHO OPERATE ON A FRIENDLY BASIS, USING DIFFERENT MEANS OF COMMUNICATIONS OR CODES.

ON SLAVERY THE DELEGATES CALLED FOR INVESTIGATIONS INTO ITS OCCURRENCE. BUT ALL DELEGATIONS SAID IT WAS NOT A PROBLEM IN THEIR COUNTRIES AND DISCUSSION WAS LIMITED TO THE ILLEGAL JOB CORRIDOR RUNNING FROM THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST TO WESTERN EUROPE.

REUTER RAG/MJ 1700

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